

While pump prices have eased slightly in recent weeks, Alabamians are still paying around \$3.13 a gallon for gas. High energy prices continue to weigh down our economy and will have a negative effect on summer vacation and tourist travel. The best way to tackle high energy costs is for Washington to get behind a national energy policy that emphasizes domestic fuel production and reduces our dependence on foreign oil. Sadly, the Obama administration doesn't consider lower energy costs a priority.

Today, the House passed the Domestic Energy and Jobs Act by a vote of 248 to 163. I was pleased to support this legislation which combines seven bills that would reduce our dependence on foreign oil, as well as spur economic growth and job creation.

The House continues to push for an all-of-the-above energy strategy to meet the needs of our economy now and in the future. Furthermore, we strongly support the approval of the Keystone XL Pipeline to provide more American jobs and increase our access to abundant oil from Canada.

Since January 2011, the House has passed over 30 other bills to kick start jobs through regulatory relief and increased domestic energy production, yet the Senate with backing from the White House has stalled them in the interest of partisan politics.

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